# 9 FAM PART IV Appendix C, GREECE

(TL:VISA-301; 07-30-2001)

# **RECIPROCITY**

(TL:VISA-301; 07-30-2001)

| Visa     | Fee       | No. Applications | Validity      |
|----------|-----------|------------------|---------------|
| A-1      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| A-2      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| A-3 [1]  | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 24 MONTHS     |
| B-1      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 120 MONTHS    |
| B-2      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 120 MONTHS    |
| B-1/B-2  | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 120 MONTHS    |
| C-1      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 120 MONTHS    |
| C-1/D    | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 120 MONTHS    |
| C-2      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 12 MONTHS     |
| C-3      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| D        | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 120 MONTHS    |
| E-1 [2]  | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| E-2 [2]  | NO TREATY | N/A              | N/A           |
| F-1      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| F-2      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| G-1      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| G-2      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| G-3      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| G-4      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| G-5 [1]  | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 24 MONTHS     |
| H-1B     | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS [3] |
| H-1C     | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS [3] |
| H-2A     | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS [3] |
| H-2B     | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS [3] |
| H-3      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS [3] |
| H-4      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS [3] |
| I        | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| J-1 [4]  | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| J-2 [4]  | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| K-1      | NONE      | ONE              | 6 MONTHS      |
| K-2      | NONE      | ONE              | 6 MONTHS      |
| K-3      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 120 MONTHS    |
| K-4      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 120 MONTHS    |
| L-1      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS [3] |
| L-2      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS [3] |
| M-1      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| M-2      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| N-8      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| N-9      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| NATO 1-7 | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS     |
| O-1      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS [3] |
| O-2      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS [3] |
| O-3      | NONE      | MULTIPLE         | 60 MONTHS [3] |

| P-1     | NONE | MULTIPLE | 60 MONTHS [3]  |
|---------|------|----------|----------------|
|         | NONE | MULTIPLE | 60 MONTHS [3]  |
| P-3     | NONE | MULTIPLE | 60 MONTHS [3]  |
| P-4     | NONE | MULTIPLE | 60 MONTHS [3]  |
| Q-1 [6] | NONE | MULTIPLE | 15 MONTHS [3]  |
| R-1     | NONE | MULTIPLE | 60 MONTHS      |
| R-2     | NONE | MULTIPLE | 60 MONTHS      |
| S-5 [7] | NONE | ONE      | 1 MONTH        |
| S-6 [7] | NONE | ONE      | 1 MONTH        |
| S-7 [7] | NONE | ONE      | 1 MONTH        |
| TD [5]  | N/A  | N/A      | N/A            |
| V-1     | NONE | MULTIPLE | 120 MONTHS     |
| V-2     | NONE | MULTIPLE | 120 MONTHS [8] |
| V-3     | NONE | MULTIPLE | 120 MONTHS [8] |

# SPECIAL CLEARANCE AND ISSUANCE PROCEDURES

(TL:VISA-256; 04-09-2001)

None.

#### DOCUMENTS AND RECORDS

#### **Police Record**

(TL:VISA-256; 04-09-2001)

Available. Either the type "A" or "B" penal record (Antigrafon Pinikou Mitroou) is acceptable. For Greeks born in Athens and foreign-born Greek applicants, the record may be obtained from the Bureau of Penal Records (Ipiresia Pinikou Mitroou) of the Ministry of Justice, Sokratous 65, 104 31 Athens, Greece, Tel: 5222-658.

For Greeks born in Greece and residing outside of Athens, the Record is obtainable from the Public Prosecutor's Office (Isangelia) of the appropriate district administration. Greeks who are residents of Athens, but born in other parts of Greece, may apply in Athens if they pay the cost of a telegraphic clearance to their place of birth.

Non-Greek applicants visiting or living in Greece should apply in person to the Ipiresia Pinikou Mitroou for Foreigners, Mesogion 96, 101 79 Athens, Greece, tel: 7753-733 or 7713-503, bringing with them their personal identification documents, Greek residence permit and passport.

If applying from outside of Greece, both Greek and foreign nationals must include in their written request the full details of their identity, certified by the Greek Consulate serving the area in which they presently reside.

The Penal Record includes all criminal and civil convictions, including those while serving prison sentences or military duty, except disciplinary actions. In many instances, however, the record lists the charges by statute number only. The U.S. Embassy Athens can provide details of the nature of the offense given the statute number, if there is reason to doubt a visa applicant's explanation.

If the penal record contains any outstanding charges it will not be given to the applicant. In such cases, the applicant should request that it be sent directly to the U.S. Embassy or Consulate where application is being made.

Processing time: Two working days in Athens; around twenty-five days if applying from outside of Athens or Greece. There may be a fee for this service.

#### **Court and Prison Record**

(TL:VISA-256; 04-09-2001)

Available. Court records are issued by the convicting court and can be sent directly to the applicant. Applicants must provide the court with the case number shown in the penal record. There may be a fee for this service.

The only prison record available is a certificate of good conduct (Pistopiitikon Kalis Diagogis) from the penal institution where the applicant was imprisoned. It is of little value since the penal record would include any crimes committed while in prison. Processing time: Ten working days.

### Military Record

(TL:VISA-256; 04-09-2001)

Available. A military record (Pistopiitiko Stratologikis Katastasis Tipou "A") is available to Greek males who are twenty years of age or older and who have completed their military service. Military service is mandatory for all males except foreign-born Greeks coming from Eastern European countries such as Albania and Romania, and Greeks from Cyprus and Turkey, and those with serious medical and psychological problems. Those exempted from service or who have had their military duty deferred may obtain the Tipou "B" Pistopiitiko Stratologikis Katastasis, giving the reason for exemption or deferral. Military records are available as follows:

Residents of Athens proper (registered with Athens City Hall) should apply at the Military Office (Stratologia), Petrou Ralli 1, 17778 Tavros, Athens. (Tel: 3425-007 or 4512-468).

Residents of greater Athens should apply at the Military Office (Stratologia), Alexandrou 2-4, 15773 Zografos, Athens. (Tel: 7705-972 or 7701-086).

Residents of the Piraeus area should apply at the Military Office (Stratologia), Terma Agiou Eleftheriou, 18541 Piraeus. (Tel: 4817-546 or 4817-521). Residents of other areas should apply at the recruiting office nearest to their place of birth.

These records cannot be issued by mail; those living outside of Greece should authorize a friend or relative to obtain them with a power of attorney.

**NOTE:** Crimes committed while serving in the army will also be listed on the civilian penal record described above. However, the military record often provides useful additional information about medical problems which are potentially disqualifying, such as psychiatric or drug-related problems. Processing time: Same day. There may be a fee for this service.

#### **Birth Certificate**

(TL:VISA-256; 04-09-2001)

Available. If the birth occurred in Athens, Piraeus or Thessaloniki after January 1, 1925 (when registrars began to operate) a birth registration (Lixiarchiki Praxi Yenniseos) is obtainable from the registrar's office (Lixiarchia). The registrar of Athens is located at Mitropoleos 60, Tel: 3241-816 or 3240-668.

If the birth occurred before January 1, 1925, and/or outside of Athens, Piraeus or Thessaloniki, a birth certificate (Pistopiitiko Yenniseos) is available from the local Mayor's office (Dimarchio) or from the local president of the community (Kinotita); this is acceptable if the birth occurred in a small village. However, if the Dimarchio or Kinotita have their own registrar's office, then a Lixiarchiki Praxi Yenniseos should be obtained. Processing time for Athens: Same day. There may be a fee for this service.

## **Marriage Certificate**

(TL:VISA-256; 04-09-2001)

Available. The marriage certificate (Lixiarchiki Praxi Gamou) is issued by the local registrar's office (Lixiarchio). When not available, a Church registration from the Greek Orthodox Church authorities (Mitropolis) is good secondary evidence.

Greek family law was amended as of July 18, 1982 to permit civil marriages in Greece. Prior to that date only religious ceremonies were valid. Both religious and civil marriages must be registered with the local registrars to be considered valid.

The 1982 law also prohibited the marriage of a person under 18 years of age without obtaining court approval. The approval of the parents alone is not enough. Thus, a court approval must also be required when an applicant was under 18 when married any time after July 18, 1982. Court approvals can be obtained retroactively, validating a prior wedding ceremony. When the applicant reaches the age of 18, however, a simpler procedure can be used. The applicant himself can legitimize his/her marriage by making a formal statement before a notary public that he/she considers his/her marriage valid. Processing time for Athens: same day. There may be a fee for this service.

#### **Death Certificate**

(TL:VISA-256; 04-09-2001)

Available. Death certificates are issued by the local registrar's office (Lixiarchio). The local mayor's office (Dimarchio) and the president of the local community (Kinotita) also issue death certificates. Processing time for Athens: same day. There may be a fee for this service.

#### **Divorce Certificate**

(TL:VISA-256; 04-09-2001)

Available. Divorce is obtained from the Court of First Instance (Protodikion) of the place of residence. The Court decree becomes irrevocable one month after the final decision. The Protodikion for Athens is located at Palea Ktiria Sholis Evelpidon, Athens, tel: 8822-549 or 8625-016.

If the marriage occurred in a Greek Orthodox religious ceremony, the court decree must be presented to the church authorities (Mitropolis) for a final pronouncement of the dissolution of the marriage. Both the court decree and the certificate of divorce from the Mitropolis are required as primary evidence of divorce.

If the marriage took place in a civil ceremony, then the court decree together with a divorce certificate issued by the local Mayor (Dimarchio) are required as evidence of the divorce. Processing time for Athens: same day. There may be a fee for this service.

# **VISA ISSUING POST**

(TL:VISA-131; 12-01-1995)

Athens: (E) All Ca Address: APO AE 09842 All Categories

# GEOGRAPHIC AREAS SERVICED

(TL:VISA-131; 12-01-1995)

Athens: All of Greece.